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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 549 By Ford J

A RESOLUTION to confirm the reappointment of A.C. Wharton, Jr., to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-201, provides for the creation of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-204, provides that each member of the commission shall be appointed by the Governor; and

WHEREAS, Governor Don Sundquist has reappointed A.C. Wharton to serve on the Tennessee Higher Education Commission representing the Ninth Congressional District, effective July 1, 1999, for a term that run through June 30, 2005; and

WHEREAS, born in Lebanon, Mr. Wharton graduated with distinction from Tennessee State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science; he received his Juris Doctorate Degree from the University of Mississippi in 1971, graduating in the top third of his class; and

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WHEREAS, a partner in the law firm of Wharton & Wharton Associates since 1980, he has astutely served as Chief Public Defender for the Shelby County Public Defender's Office during that time; and

WHEREAS, keenly aware of his responsibilities to educate others in the study of law, Mr. Wharton has contributed his time and considerable legal expertise as an adjunct professor of law at the University of Mississippi since 1974; and

WHEREAS, A.C. Wharton's many honors include his selection as a participant in the U.S. Attorney General's Honor Law Graduate Program, his appointment as a Special Justice to the Tennessee Supreme Court by former Governor Lamar Alexander, and his receipt of the Diakonia Award for Service, the Bill of Rights Award, and the Tennessee Young Lawyers Conference and Tennessee Bar Association and Memphis and Shelby County Young Lawyers' Liberty Through Law Award; and

WHEREAS, his numerous honors and accolades aside, Mr. Wharton is most appreciative of the love and support he shares with his wife, Ruby, and their children: A.C. III, André and Alexander; and

WHEREAS, A.C. Wharton is an excellent choice to continue in this important position; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That this General Assembly does hereby confirm the reappointment of Mr. A.C. Wharton, Jr., to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission for a term to expire on July 1, 2005.

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